

Mr. REID. When I spoke, I indicated I would be happy to agree to that. Would the Chair indicate again how much time I used?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator used 29 minutes.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the time for morning business on the majority side be extended 29 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Wyoming.

#### WAR IN IRAQ

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Nevada for his courtesy and his previous offer to let me speak. I am glad to have this opportunity to talk about a number of things that have come up today. We have talked a little bit about the war in Iraq. We have talked a little bit about the environment because Earth Day is tomorrow. We have talked a little bit about overtime and we have talked a lot about energy. I am going to cover those topics as well as some other things that need to be known.

I am going to start with the war in Iraq because last week I had the opportunity to go with Senator SESSIONS and Senator CHAMBLISS to visit NATO and then to go into Germany and to visit with some of the troops that have been wounded in Iraq. Some of them have been wounded very severely. In fact, those who are not severely wounded do not leave Iraq. There are hospitals in Iraq that take care of them and then get them back into the fray. Those who have been injured worse are flown to Landstuhl Hospital in Germany where they are stabilized, treated, and then sent back to the United States for more treatment.

The three of us had an opportunity to visit that hospital. We split up into three groups so we could talk to more of the soldiers. We thought we would be able to perhaps pump them up a little bit after what they had been through. Quite the reverse happened. They pumped us up. It was a tremendous experience.

These people, men and women, to a person said: We are making a difference in Iraq. We know the people over there, we know our job, we are doing our job, the people are responding to what we are doing, and we are making a difference.

The other side is so worried that they are bringing in people to take us on. Every one of them wanted to be patched up as fast as possible and go back to help their buddies. They knew what the job was. They knew the people there. It was tremendously inspirational.

The next day we went to an Army training base that a lot of U.S. soldiers in the past had been assigned to and are still assigned to, but they have been moved to Iraq. They have been assigned to Iraq and they had just been on another overseas assignment, had

been back about 8 months and were assigned to Iraq. Some of the spouses there had had husbands extended in Iraq. We wanted to find out what they were feeling, what they were thinking. It was a chance to visit with them, and so we did.

Again, we were the ones who were encouraged. I remember one of the spouses explaining that part of the job of a soldier is to watch the back of his buddy, and when some of the troops are pulled out prematurely there is nobody to watch somebody's back. Then the lady said: If my husband was the one who had to stay and somebody got pulled out, I would not be able to take it. So if my husband is the one who has to stay to protect somebody else, that is their job. That is what I want him to do. That is what he needs to do. That is what will make the difference.

What I noticed at both of those meetings was that other countries of the world say the reason we are the most powerful country in the world is because of the money we spend on being powerful. Some people would say it is because of the technology we have developed that makes us more equipped with more advanced things than any other country in the world. Both of those play a small role, but what makes the difference between the United States and the other countries is the people of this country, the young men and women who are serving in our Armed Forces—their dedication, their innovation, their ability to think, their ability to react, and their patriotism.

Then we have another secret weapon, and that secret weapon is the spouses and the families who are praying for and supporting the troops. That is a force other countries cannot reckon with, and we should be so appreciative.

I want to mention one other thing that might seem unusual. When we were meeting with one of the generals, the general prayed. Now, I am not sure that is acceptable under the Constitution as it might be interpreted by some judges, but he prayed. He knows that will make a difference.

One of the things that occurred to me while he was doing that is we often almost always remember to pray for our troops, but I think we probably ought to be praying for the opposition as well. We ought to be praying for the opposition to soften their hearts, for the opposition to realize what is happening in the world and the role they are playing. Praying can make a difference, and it is up to all of us to try that, with faith, and see if it will not support these admirable troops, their spouses, and their families.

#### EARTH DAY

Mr. ENZI. I will switch to another topic now. Tomorrow is Earth Day and all of us are concerned about the future of the Earth. We are concerned about the environment, and we are concerned about the activities that happen in that environment. Earlier there was a

comment about wilderness areas and how wilderness study areas can be violated.

I need to address this wilderness study issue because Wyoming is the only State in the Nation that negotiated its wilderness areas years ago. We wanted to get that figured out. We wanted to protect vast areas, and we did. There is always the recommendation that there be additional wilderness study areas, and we do not have any problem with that, with a small caveat, and that is that the wilderness study areas are often areas that are being used as part of the economy of our State. They are already areas that have had development.

Do my colleagues know what happens when they go into a wilderness study area. They go into an indefinite period of being studied with nothing being allowed to happen on that land. The things that were already happening cannot continue. It moves back to a primitive state, with no activity, for an indefinite period of time.

There are some wilderness impact study areas that have been looked at for 20 years. Do my colleagues not think a decision ought to be able to be made in less than 20 years? There might even be some out there that are longer than that.

The fear of people whose economy relies on an area that they have already been using is it will be designated a wilderness impact study area and they will lose their right to use it for what they have been earning their living at, for years, while it is not being studied. That is a crime.

Another problem we have is it is a big country and things tend to be one size fits all. For instance, I just saw an ad in the paper asking people to send money to help preserve wolves. It was a glorious ad. That is what ads are. They are to sell people on doing things. But they only tell one side of the story, and I hope before people send their money they will check with areas that are being impacted by a wolf population. It has a little bit to do with our Endangered Species Act.

The Endangered Species Act is a Federal policy. It has to be. This is a vast country and we try to save things all over—and we need to. But it is an unfunded mandate for States, for counties, for towns, and particularly for individuals. That is against the law, to put unfunded mandates on the States, the counties, and the people, but we do it with the Endangered Species Act.

Right now, Wyoming's wolf program costs about \$1.2 million a year. That is coming out of the Wyoming pocket; that is not coming out of the Federal pocket. There are county expenses involved in it that are not being paid for by the Federal Government. There are individuals who can no longer use their land, they can't make the living on their land they were making because of a Federal policy. Do we pay them anything for that? No, we don't. We should. There are definitely laws about